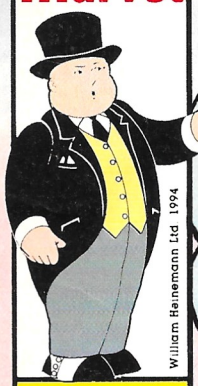
2 FABULOUS COMPETITIONS - INSIDE!

Marvel



William Heinemann Ltd 1994

12th Aug. '94
No178 65p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on the Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

Meet Oliver, The Great Western Railway Engine!

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NOTICEBOARD

Peep! Peep! **Oliver is a Great Western Railway Engine and he works on Duck's busy branch line. He was sent to the railway after being saved from the scrapyard. You can meet him in our first story! Find out why he is so frightened to come out of his engine shed! Daisy, as you know, is a confident and clean diesel railcar. But in our second story, even diesels get dirty sometimes! *Peep! Peep!***

How to obtain your Fat Controller's Card!

If you would like to receive your very own, splendid **Fat Controller's Card**, send one red, yellow and blue token together with your details listed below (details need only be listed on any one of the 3 coloured tokens when applying for this offer) plus a stamped addressed envelope to: **The Fat Controller's Card Offer, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.**

Name .....

Address .....

.....

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Age .....

Postcode .....

THOMAS TOKEN

OUR COMPETITIONS!

On **page 7**, you can win some beautifully hand painted **Bookends** and **Clocks**, courtesy of **Ends Ltd.**

On **page 12**, you can win some more exciting picture books courtesy of **Reed Children's Books.**

Don't miss our next issue! We will be featuring a 'Who's at the playground' story competition with Bassett Jelly Babies 'goody bags' to give away as prizes.

ABC CONSUMER PRESS
THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS™

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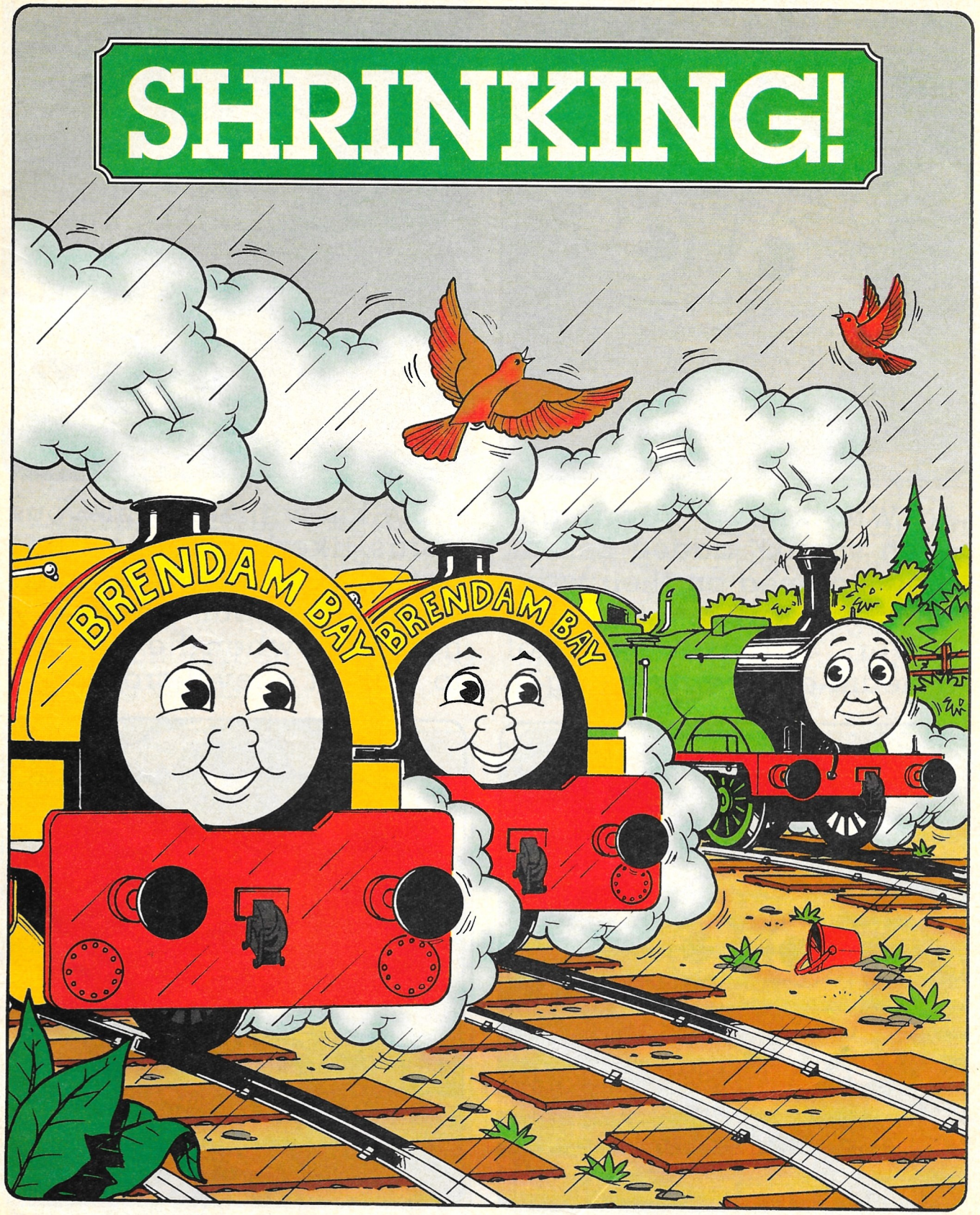
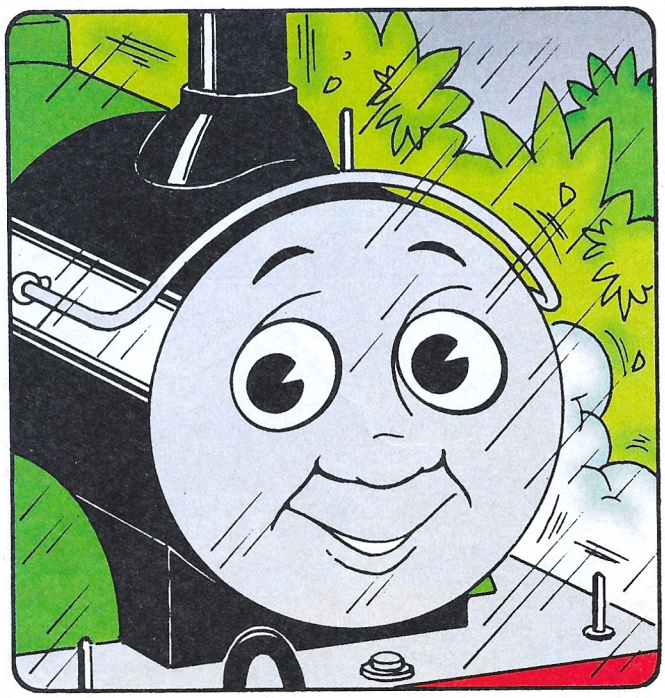
SHRINKING!

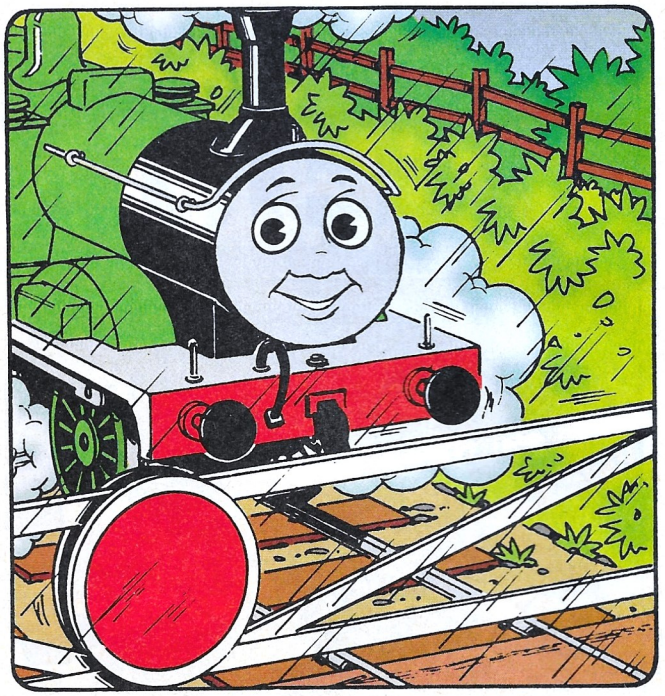


1. It had been raining all day. Oliver was dripping wet as he worked busily on Duck's branch line. At a junction with the main line, he met Bill and Ben.

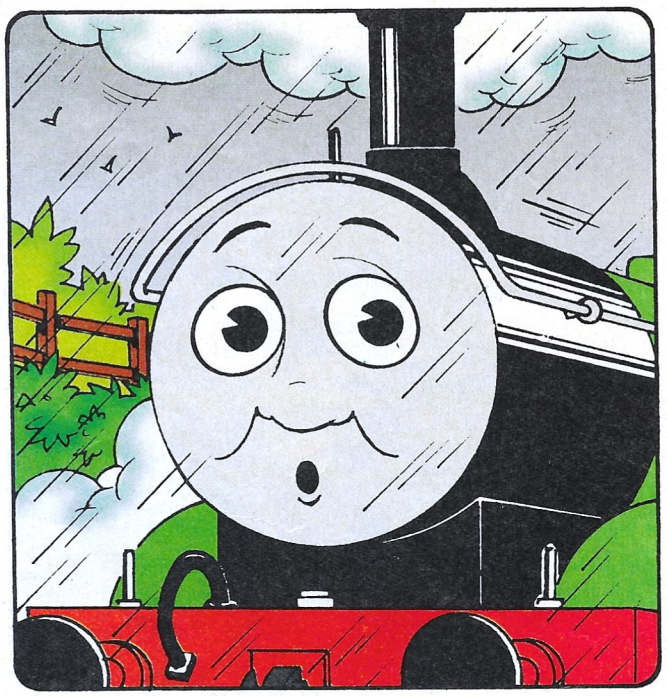
2. The tank-engine twins were on their way to the Big Harbour with a load of china clay. "You mind you don't go rusty, if it gets much wetter!" joked Bill.



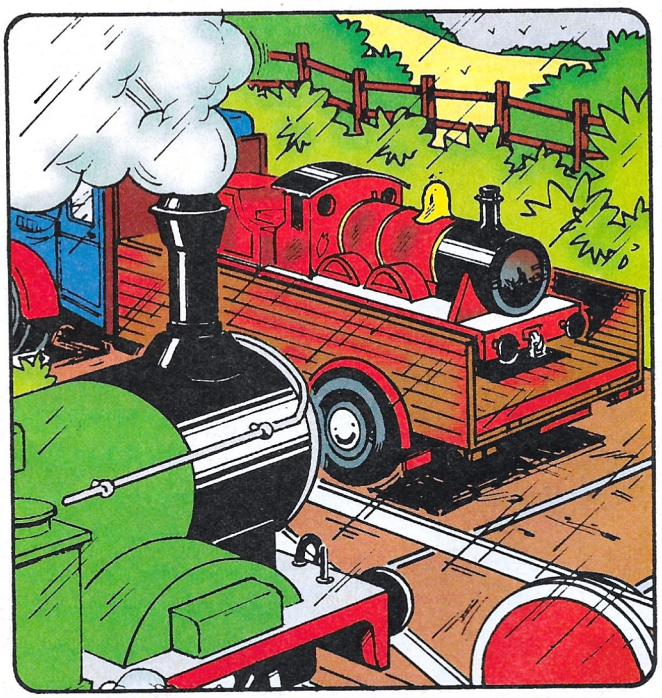
3. "Who knows! You might even shrink!" added Ben as they steamed on their way. "Shrink! Rubbish!" cried Oliver. "Whoever heard of a steam-engine shrinking?"



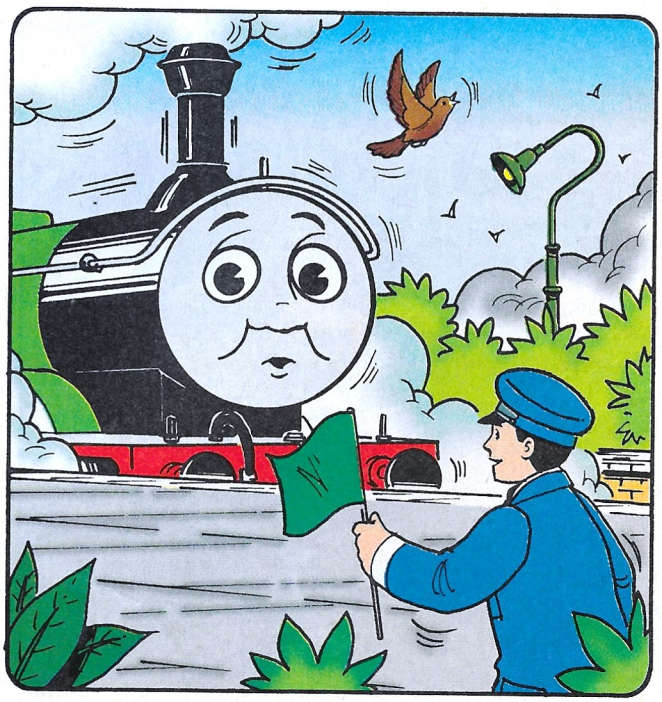
4. He knew the mischievous twins liked to tease him. Later, Oliver was still laughing about what they had said when he braked to wait at a level-crossing.



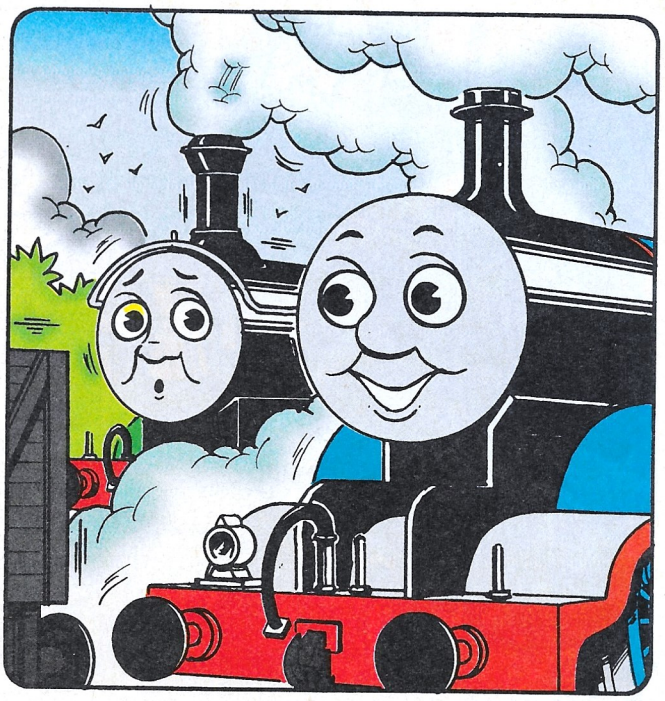
5. The downpour got worse and worse. Next moment, Oliver saw a lorry go over the crossing and stared in astonishment. "Oh, no!" he gasped. "It's true!"



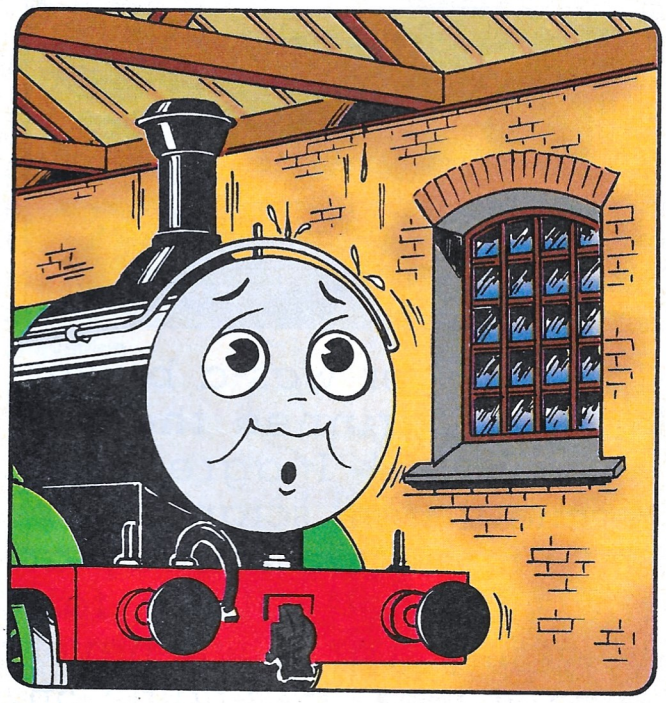
6. Oliver could hardly believe his eyes. On the back of the lorry was a very small, rusty engine. "It must have shrunk, just like Ben warned!" he said.



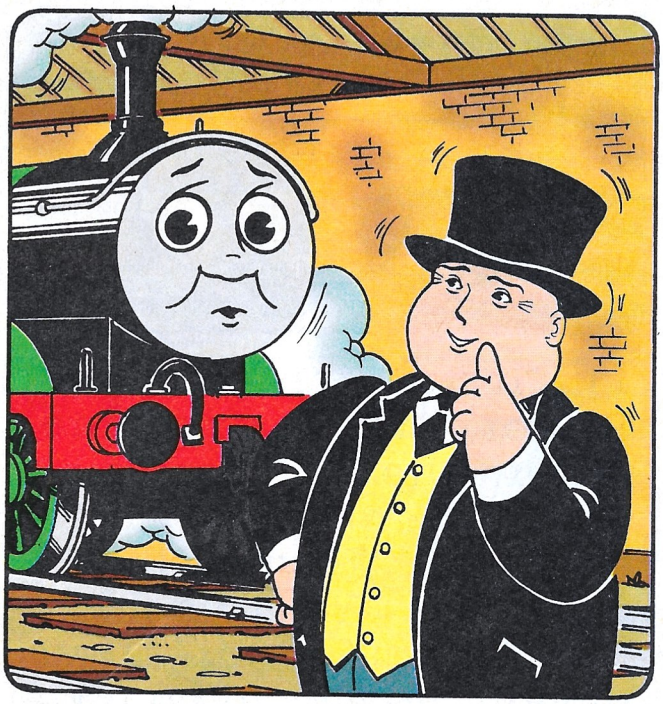
7. "That little engine is probably off to the scrapyard," thought Oliver, shocked. As he returned to the Main Station, it stopped raining at last.



8. "Hello, Thomas!" Oliver called anxiously, seeing his friend shunting trucks in the yard. "Do I look any smaller?" "Of course not," said Thomas. "Why?"



9. "Er, nothing!" replied Oliver. But that night, he heard the drumming of more heavy rain on the engine shed roof. Oliver was so worried he could not sleep.



10. "If I shrink, I'll be sent for scrap too!" he fretted. Next day, Oliver refused to come out of the shed. The Fat Controller came to see what was wrong.

11. "It's all this rain!" said Oliver, who explained about the little engine. "There's only one way to cure you," frowned the Fat Controller. "You're going to the Works!" Poor Oliver thought he was to be taken apart there for scrap. But when he arrived, he was amazed to see the little engine being repaired.

12. "It never was a bigger engine!" grinned the Fat Controller. "I agreed to rescue it from scrap to run on a miniature railway at the seaside!" Oliver felt very silly. Later, whenever he saw the little engine on its tiny track, Oliver always reminded himself not to listen to Bill and Ben's jokes again.

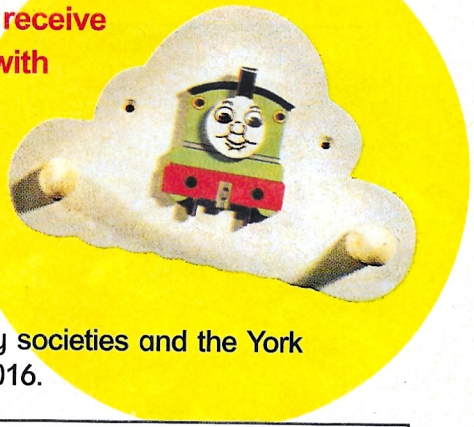
THE END!

In our next issue: The canoe race!

Win a Handcrafted Thomas Gift!

Thomas is proud that these wonderful hand painted gifts are really useful too! And he is especially pleased that they are made out of wood from forests in Britain where the trees are replaced with more trees.

- The 12 first prize winners will be able to put their story books between these Really Useful Bookends.
- The 10 second prize winners will receive their very own clock, guaranteed, with their name on, so that they will always be on time. Just like me!
- The 5 third prize winners receive a personalised coat peg, just like the one that the Fat Controller uses to hang his hat on.



These gifts are available at reputable gift shops, railway societies and the York Railway Museum. For your nearest stockist, telephone ENDS on (0787) 462016.

How to enter;

For your chance to win one of these prizes, answer the following simple question:

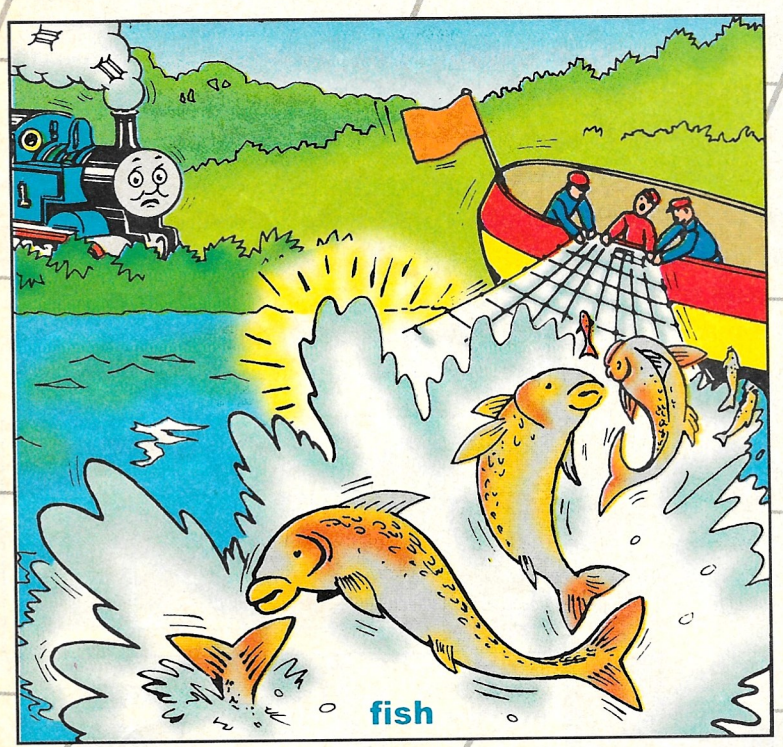
Which two engines are featured on the Bookends?

Send your answers on a postcard including your name and address to Thomas Bookends Competition, Marvel Comics Ltd,13-15 Arundel St, London WC2R 3DX by August 26th 1994.

Rules:
This competition is open to all readers other than employees of Ends Ltd., and Marvel Comics Ltd. All products will be dispatched from Ends. We cannot accept responsibility for any products lost or damaged in the post. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into.

THOMAS THE FISH ENGINE!

Thomas was not feeling very happy. Although he tried hard to be a Really Useful Engine, there was one task he did not like doing and that was carrying fish. But the Fat Controller had sent him to the fish market, by the Big Harbour, to collect a fresh catch bound for the Island of Sodor Fish Factory.



"Pah! I'll smell like a kipper myself by the time I've finished this job!" he grumbled. "I'll have to be washed down afterwards!" On the way, Thomas steamed along the coast and spotted a fishing boat out to sea. It was a windy day and the boat seemed to bob about like a cork on the choppy water as it hauled in a big net. It was full of fish.

"That looks difficult work in such rough water!" said Thomas, anxiously. "I hope nothing goes wrong!" Hardly had he spoken when the net tore and all the fish fell back into the sea.

"Oh, no!" gasped Thomas. "They're having a bad day, just like me!" The fishing boat pulled in the damaged net and made for the harbour.

"That net must be mended before the fishermen can work again," said his driver. While Thomas rolled into a siding by the fish market, the boat moored nearby and the net was hung up to await repair. The fishermen looked as gloomy as Thomas. Soon his trucks were loaded with box after box of fish, packed in ice. A strong fishy smell wafted all over him.

Thomas frowned and wrinkled his nose as he began to pull away slowly with his load. Just then, Diesel came speeding past on his way across the harbour yard.

"Phew!" he called nastily in

his oily voice. "Out of my way, Thomas the fish engine! You won't catch me hanging around here! I need fresh air!" Suddenly, a freak gust of wind swept in from the sea. It was so strong it lifted the torn net right into the air, straight towards Thomas.

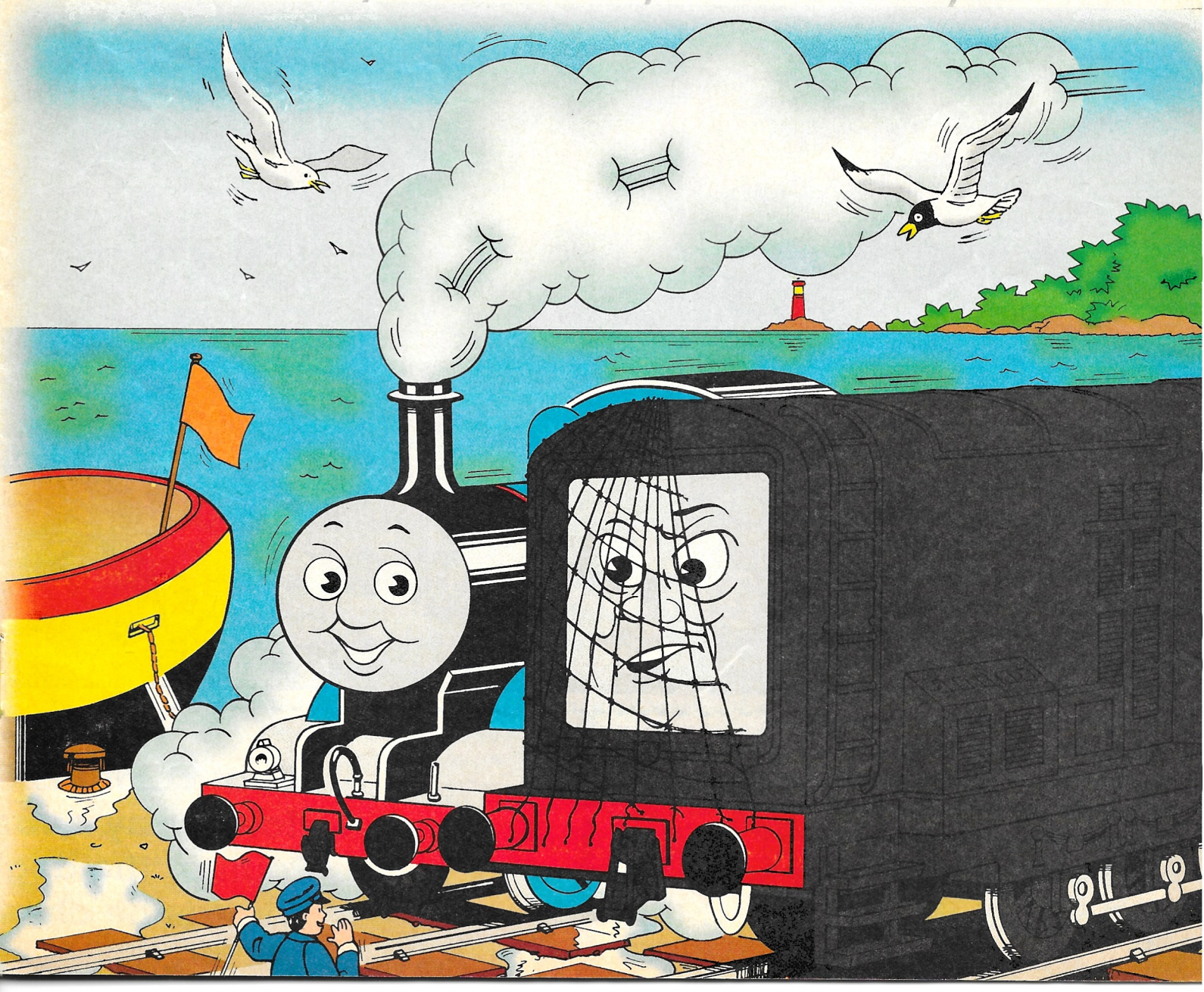
"Smoke and fire!" he gasped. "Look out!" But suddenly, there was an even stronger gust of wind.

The net flew over Thomas and landed on Diesel. WHUMP! It landed right on top of him.

"Help!" he howled as he pulled up hard. Diesel was not hurt but hissed angrily when he saw Thomas and the guard laughing at him.

"You've cheered us up, Diesel!" called Thomas. "I couldn't catch you but that fishing net did!"

THE END!



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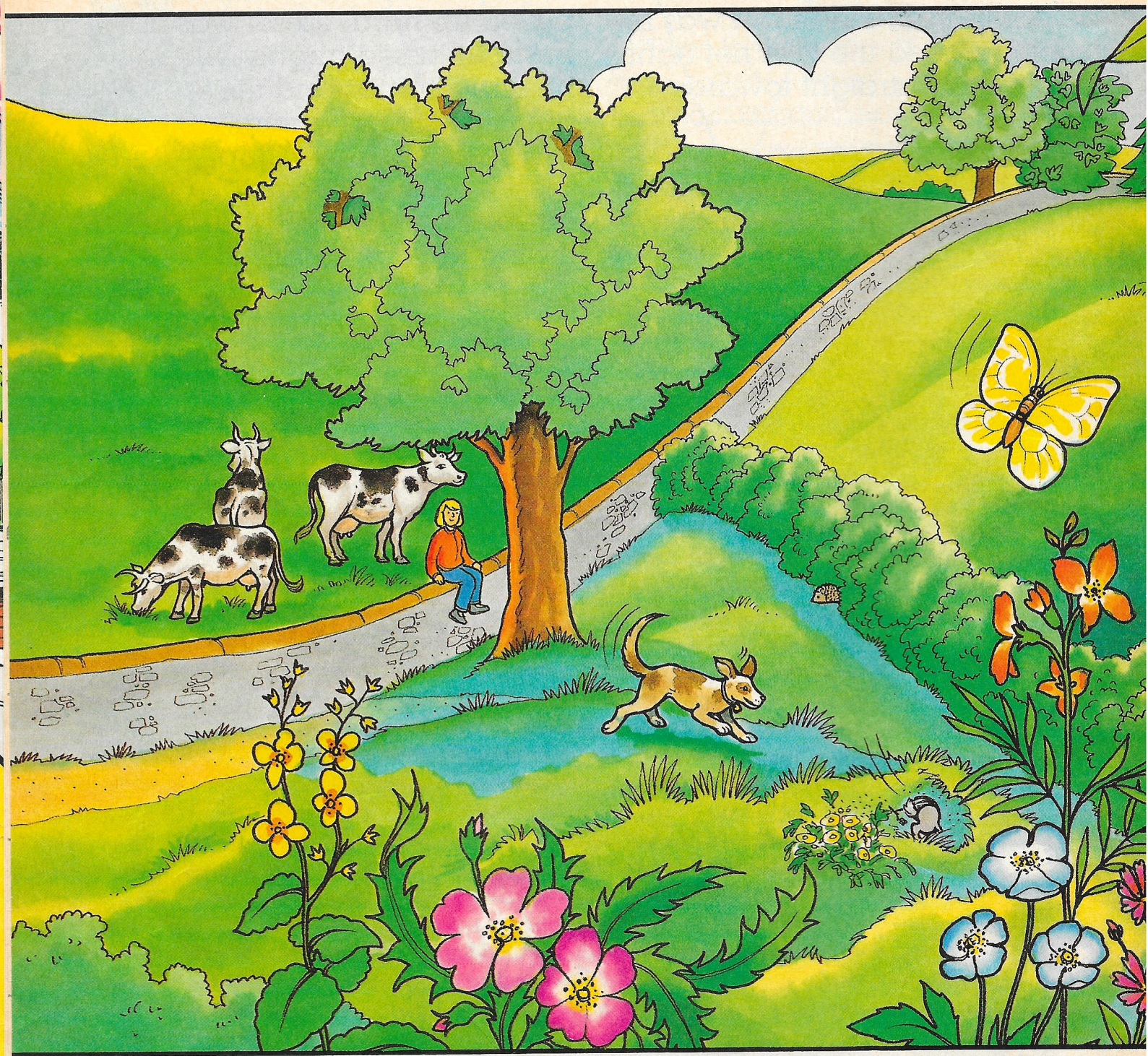

Which engine can you see?
What number is he?
What is his main colour?
Point to the tiny ladybird!

What colour is
How many cov
Point to the do
What is he cho

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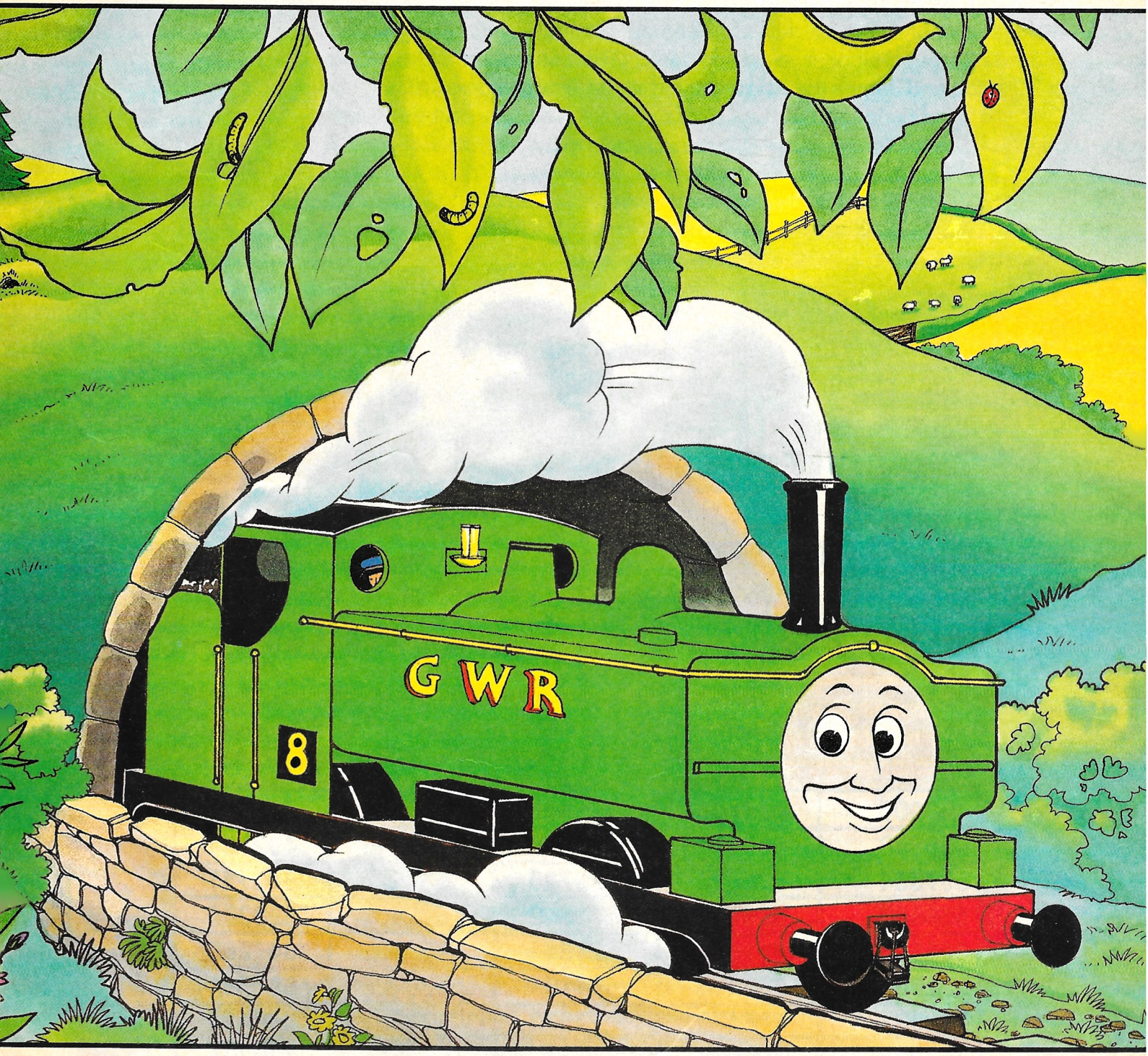


ne butterfly?
can you see?

ng?

Note for parents

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

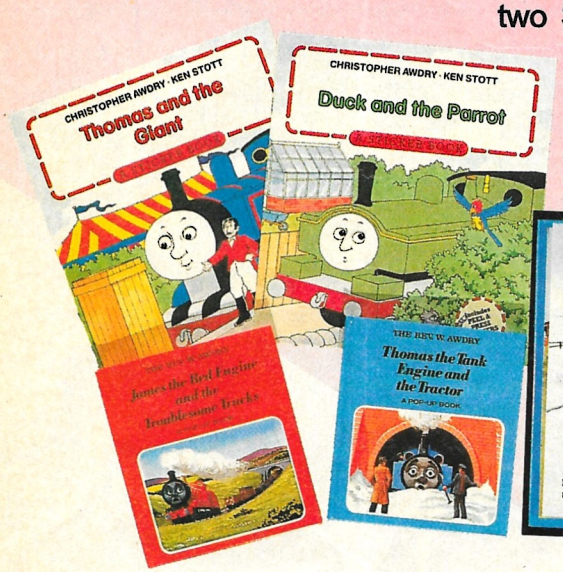
In our next issue: The Fat Controller on holiday!

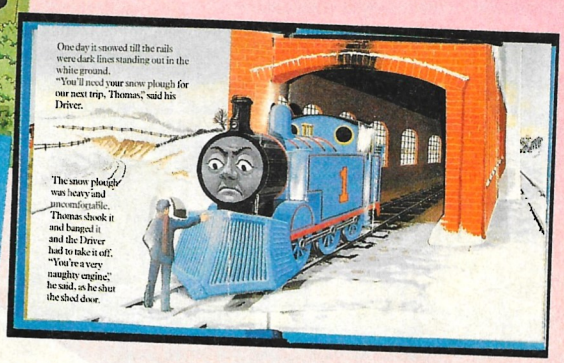
WIN A BOOK!

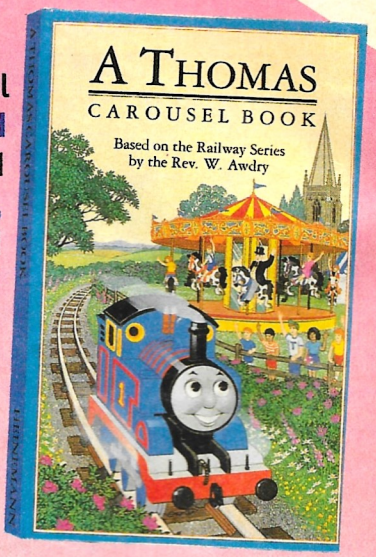
Token number 1

Welcome to part 1 of our 2-part competition!

We are giving away 10 sets of Thomas Books, including a beautiful **Thomas Carousel Book**, two pop-up books **(Thomas the Tank Engine and the Tractor, and James the Red Engine and the Troublesome Trucks)** and two Sticker Books **(Thomas and the Giant, plus Duck and the Parrot).** Collect and keep the token on this page and send it with part 2 in issue 179! **Good luck!**







Published by Reed Children's Books.

MAKE SUMMER READING FUN

Your Newsagent will have given you a Lucky Number leaflet "Make Summer reading Fun!" If one of the numbers below matches the number on the leaflet, YOU ARE A WINNER! Ask your parent/guardian to help you. The leaflet shows how to claim prizes.

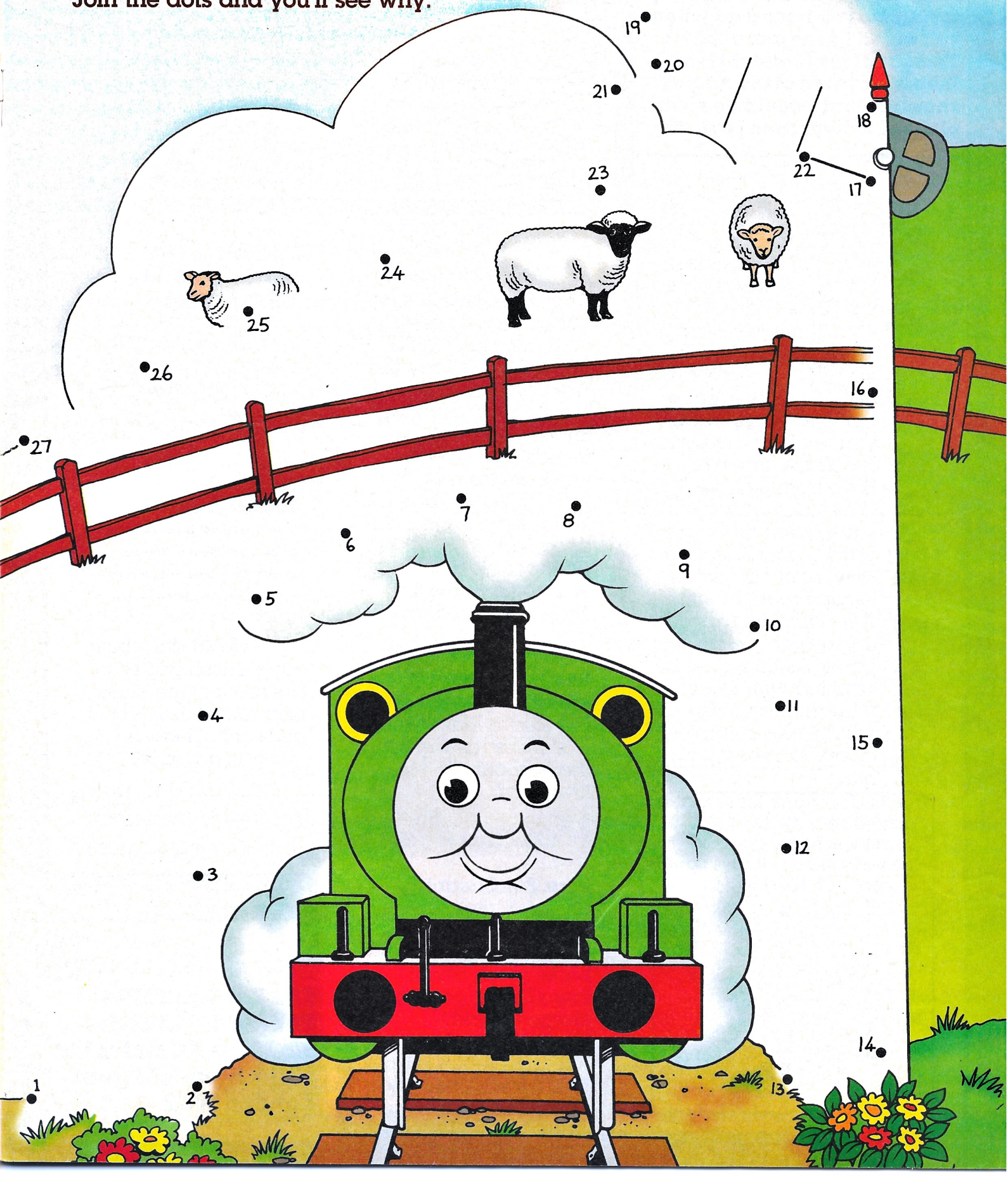
403006	416192	425506	438025	441119
456358	461874	479850	488511	492134
507354	518693	529720	534930	542711
556503	564261	572642	582006	598995
605656	611688	621614	636830	647265
652764	666276	674191	686025	690784
709537	716462	727672	731982	748414
751238	769568	773642	784638	799394
809689	814422	827306	835405	842907
855739	864299	878667	888125	897197

GOOD LUCK!

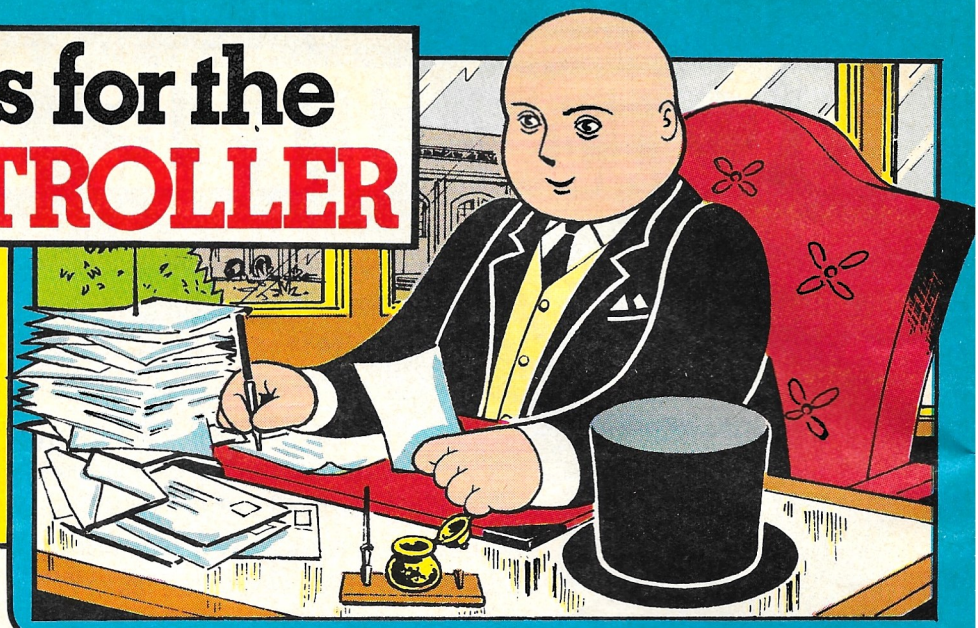
Please note: **This competition is for the Northern Region only.** Only areas round Bangor, Birkenhead, Blackpool, Bolton, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Stockport, Stoke -On-Trent and Sunderland are taking part, If you are unsure ask your Newsagent.

JOIN THE DOTS!

It looks like the sheep have learned to fly
Join the dots and you'll see why.



Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER

'The Great Escape'

Dear Fat Controller,
My name is Blake and I'm three years old. One of my favourite stories is 'The Escape', when Oliver calls to Douglas to help save him from scrap. Can you tell me why Oliver is painted green?
Love from **Blake Puller.**

When Oliver was saved from the scrap-yard, signalmen had to work out a careful escape route for him. After that, he was given a new coat of paint. As he would be working with Duck, I thought that green would be a suitable colour to choose for him.

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win some splendid **Thomas Pre-school** toys courtesy of *ERTL (UK) Ltd.*

DISTANT FRIENDS!

Dear Fat Controller,
I am a big fan of all your engines. Could you tell me if Toby the Tram Engine and Trevor the Traction Engine are good friends?
Love from **Michael Norris**, aged 7.

Yes! They are indeed good friends, but they are not able to see each other too often. They work on different parts of the Island. Trevor works in the Vicarage Orchard while Toby works on the Quarry line at Ffarqhuar, as well as the harbour at Knapford.

SCOTTISH TWINS!

Dear Fat Controller,
My favourite engines are Donald and Douglas but I don't know much about them! Could you please tell me?
Love from **William Wyatt**, aged 4.

They were originally built for the Caledonian Railway. I ordered one of them for my railway but as the twins hate to be parted, they both came! The two enjoy playing tricks but they are good hard workers!

BIRTHDAYS!

Special greetings to...
Grant Mc Roberts, Matthew Gurr, Daniel Roberts, Marco Seppe, Jack Pearson, Samuel Hawkes, Karl Clarke, Jack Gentle, Thomas Angello, Ross Stoddart, Joseph John Musher and Michael Booth.

If you would like a birthday mention printed in one of our future issues, please send details on a post-card at least **nine weeks** in advance.

Yours,
Sir Topham Hatt
The Fat Controller!

Send your letters to:

The Fat Controller
The Island of Sodor
c/o Marvel Comics Ltd
13/15 Arundel Street
London WC2.

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Child's name..... **Address**.....

.....

.....**Postcode**.....

Date of birth.....

I enclose a cheque/postal order for £..... made payable to **Marvel Comics Ltd.**

Please charge £..... to my Visa / Mastercard

Card number ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ Expiry date.....

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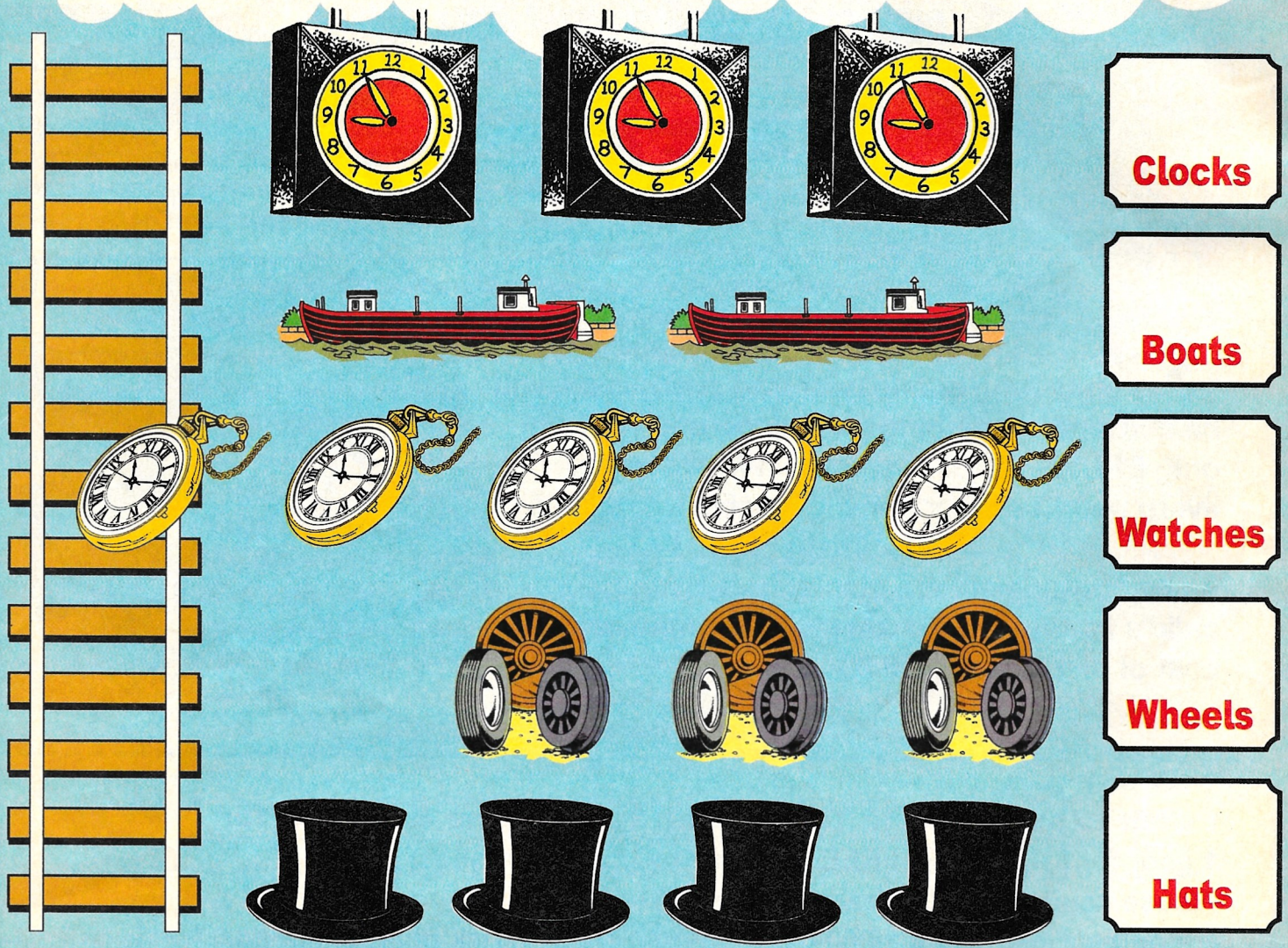
Parent's/donor's name **Mr/Mrs/Ms**.....

Address (if different from child's).....

..... **Postcode**.....

Please send to: **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester, LE99 OAA.**

Look at the pictures below! You will find station clocks, river boats, watches, engine wheels and hats. How many of each can you count! Write your numbers in the big boxes!



Clocks

Boats

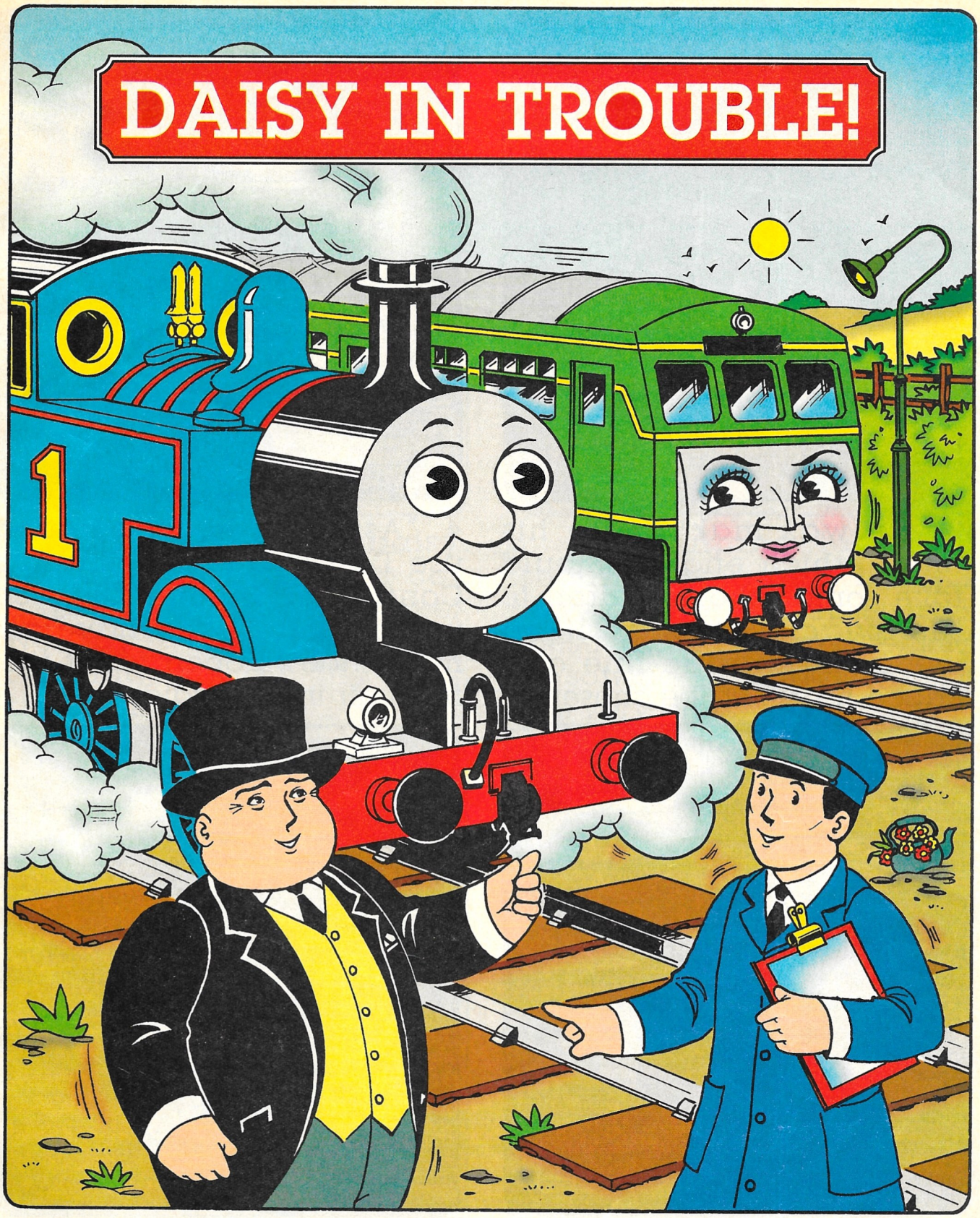
Watches

Wheels

Hats

COUNTING TIME!

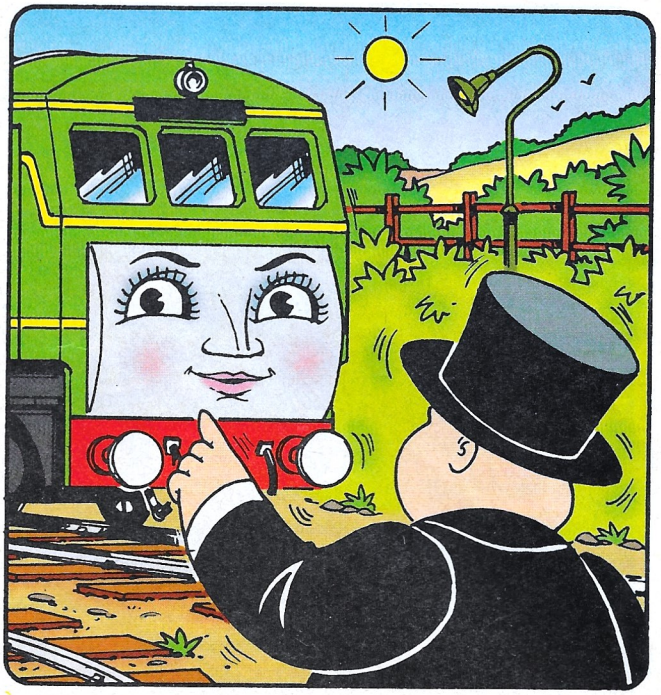
DAISY IN TROUBLE!



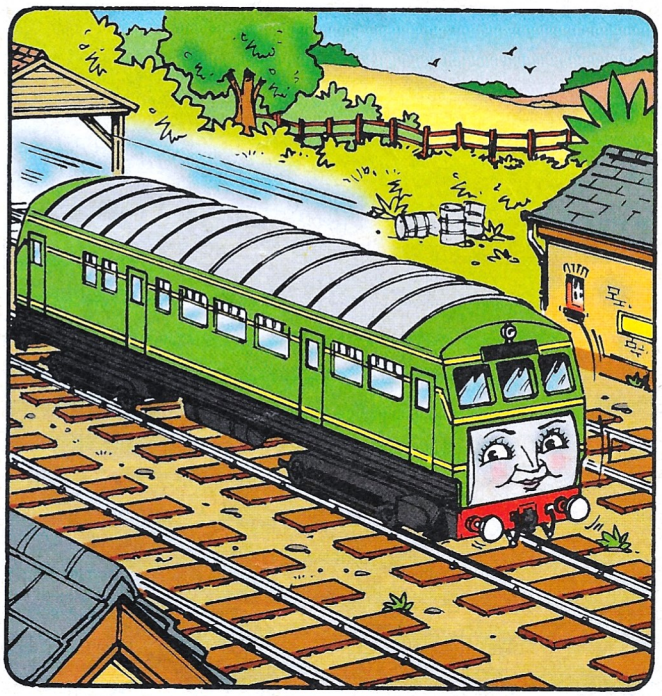
1. The weather on the Island of Sodor was very hot for the time of year. As Thomas rolled out of the shed one morning, he felt the sun on his boiler.

2. "Phew! Another scorching day!" he called to Daisy, in the yard. "Sssh!" she replied. They could hear the Fat Controller talking to the Stationmaster.

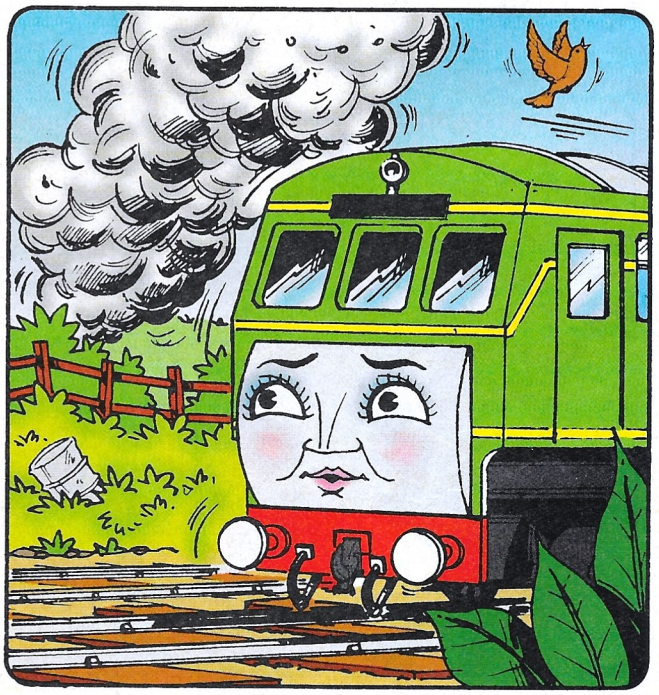
3. He was making up his mind which engine should take some schoolchildren to the beach. Thomas liked using the seaside line and hoped he would be chosen.



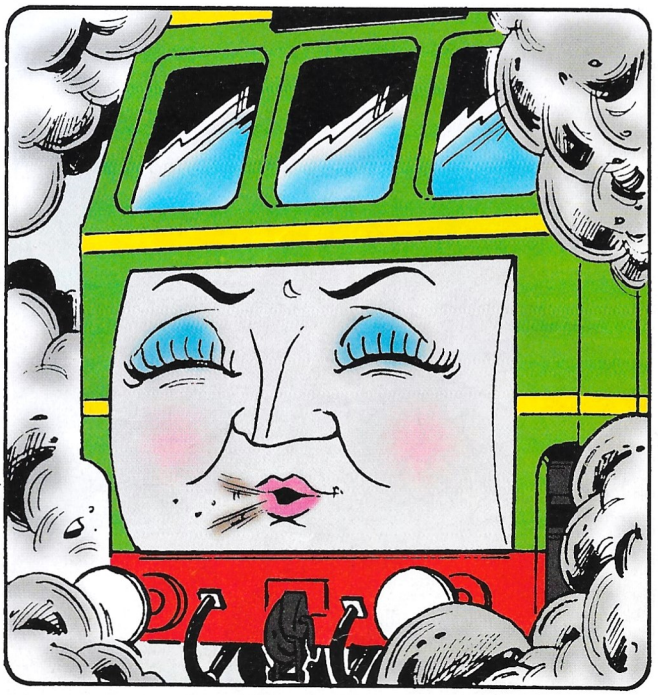
4. "As it's so hot, I'd better use Daisy!" decided the Fat Controller. Thomas did not understand. "I can have all my windows open to let the fresh air in!" she said.



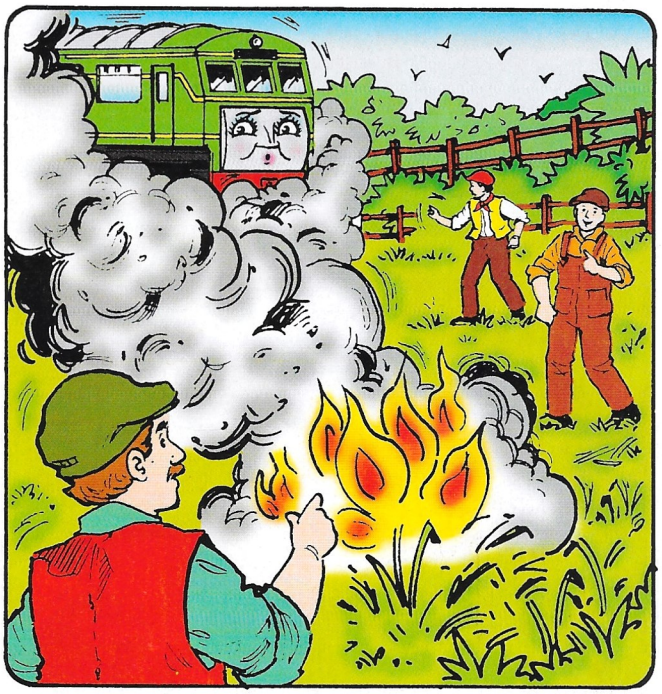
5. "I don't have a funnel to blow smoke and soot over my passengers!" she sniffed. Thomas watched sadly as Daisy set off with all her shiny windows open.



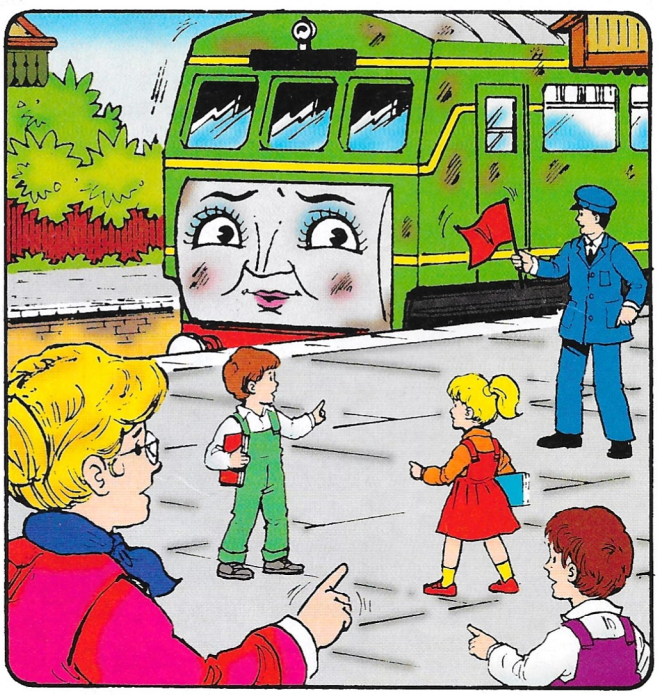
6. Daisy rolled happily through the countryside to pick up the children from a village station. Suddenly long, thick, dark smoke swept across the track ahead.



7. "Help!" spluttered Daisy. "What's happening? I can hardly see for this smoke!" Nearby, a farmer was burning off all the corn stubble in a field.

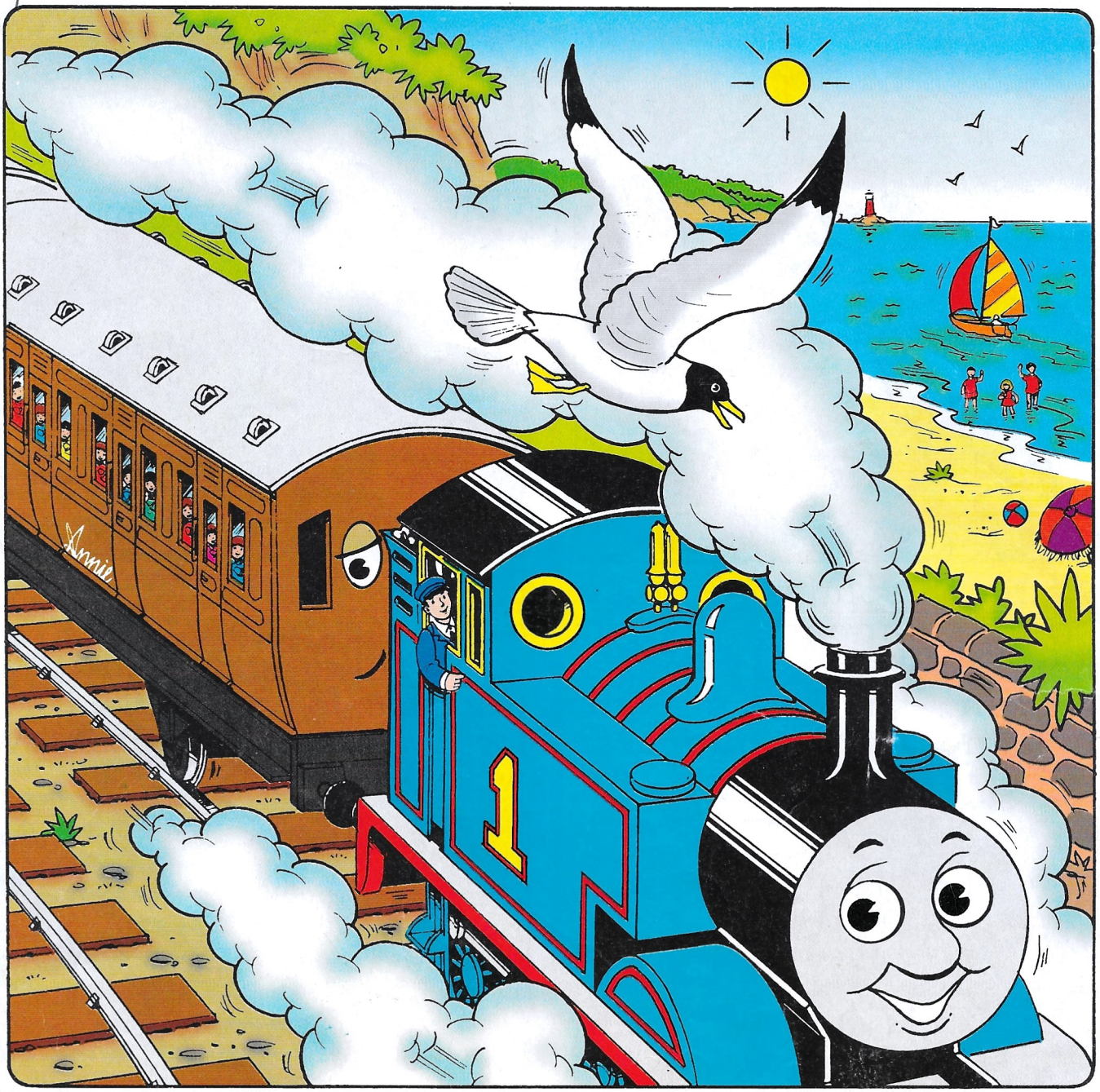


8. "It's nothing to worry about!" explained Daisy's driver. "The farmer always does that, to prepare the field for sowing again!" But Daisy was very cross.



9. Black smoke and wind blown ash drifted towards her open windows. What a grimy sight she looked as she neared the station to collect the children.

10. Daisy was covered in ash. It had blown through her windows, too, and settled on her seats. "The children's clothes will be ruined!" said the teacher.



11. She refused to let them travel in Daisy. So the Stationmaster sent for Thomas instead. "Off we go to the rescue!" he puffed cheerily out of the yard. "We've made sure all your windows are closed!" said Thomas's driver. Thomas passed Daisy sulkily returning to the Main Station to be cleaned.

12. By now the field of corn stubble had finished burning. "Hurray! Here's Thomas! We like steam engines best!" cried the children as he arrived. Soon Thomas raced towards the coast with a train full of happy children. "Poor Daisy!" he thought. "Even Diesels get dirty sometimes!"

THE END!

In our next issue: Taming Trucks!